CONFIDENTIAL.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS.

MAY 8, 1876.

POLITICAL.

GENERAL.

The *Aligarh Institute Gazette* of 28th April writes:—"It is a great crime to be a native.

"We can say that the objections placed in the way of natives prove that they are not as free as other human beings, and that they do not enjoy the rights to which men by virtue of their humanity are entitled. All these evils are due to their being natives, so that it is a great crime to be a native. It is also believed that natives do not possess good intentions, fidelity, and (a care for) the well-being of their government, and that they have not been gifted with intellect and brains, or they would be entitled to the rights allowed to intelligent persons. In future, therefore, it would be advisable for natives not to consider themselves altogether men, and hope for those indulgences that are peculiar to human beings.

"This verifies our recent arguments, *viz.*, ought the independence of the native press to be maintained or not? The British Parliament has even given this matter its attention, and with much foresight. It has been said that as some native newspapers are apt to make the people mutinous, we fear that some difficulty might yet arise that it will never be solved.

It has also been said that when an English officer's acts are criticized in a paper it gives him great pain. For this reason, therefore, some of the members of Parliament are desirous of depriving the native press of its independence; and from this it would appear that natives can look to Government for no rights.

"It is a very delicate matter to understand that the native newspapers should be able to sow sedition in the minds of the people at large, and we regret exceedingly that ventilating such thoughts should now become in Parliament like establishing a precedent for *ex parte* decrees.

We cannot understand why officers should object to their acts being criticized. The practice should be permitted to uphold the majesty of law."

The *Albert Gazette* of 28th April writes:—"Since the ruler of the Tehri state has entered his capital he has taken security from his native shikaris not to molest game within his dominions. See how fortunate European soldiers are, for they are licensed to shoot anything they please there."

EUROPEAN.

The *Anand Lahori* of 28th April writes:—"We learn from an *English Gazette* that the Duke of Edinburgh is about to start on a voyage in the 'Sultan' for two or three years. During this time his princess will go home to Russia. It is said that this is owing to a domestic quarrel in consequence of which disagreement has resulted between the two countries. In regard to Turkey, English and Russian matters are of a difficult nature, but the latter is making advances in Asia. Under such circumstances enmity appears to exist between the countries, and this is very unfortunate. Something ought to be done to bring them together on friendly terms, and the English ought to do this. Kandas thrown in increase the fire, therefore it ought to be put out."

CABUL AND CENTRAL ASIAN AFFAIRS.

The *Mutla-i-Núr* of 2nd May writes :—"It is rumoured that Bokhára is preparing for war. A correspondent tells us that it is possible all the Central Asians will unite to fight against the enemies of the Musalmans, and we hear Turkey will also join in this campaign (against Russia)."

FRONTIER.

The *Anjuman-i-Panjáb* of 5th May writes :—"There is peace now in the Kohat frontier. Many Afridis have retired to their hills, and the remainder are now living in peace."

The *Naiyar-i-Asím* of 26th April writes :—"We learn from Swat that the Wahábis are at variance with the Akhund's people."

The *Akhbár-i-Am* of 3rd May writes :—"We are informed that the whole tribe of Terah Musalmans appear to be helping the Afridis against the British Government. The Musalmans, along the boundries of Peshawar, are also in league with the Afridis. In short, we find everything tending to a grand war."

NATIVE STATES.

The *Dabdaba-i-Sikandri* of 8th May writes :—"The Udaipur State in Mewar."—"Some wicked and seditious person pasted up a paper on the door of the Maháráját's palace, in which he was warned to be very careful 'as it would be difficult for him to live.'"

Ibid.—"We learn from the *Lawrence Gazette* that the resident of Baroda held a durbar in his camp in which all the ráies of the state were present. At first other matters were discussed, after which the resident by way of an address told them, it was the intention of Government to listen to all cases, criminal and civil, &c., in their taluqs, while they collected and retained the land revenue. But as all these ráies try and determine their own cases, they disapproved of the pro-

pend. This is the beginning of the end; let us see what the result will be."

The *Oudh Akhbár* of 30th April, with reference to an article in the *Bombay Gazette*, charging the Mahárájá of Kashmir with many murders, says:—"We ought now to consider, when certain English newspapers do not fail to sting such grand noblemen as the Mahárájá, how can the unfortunate people of India escape them? English newspapers are generally accounted patterns of truth, and if these inaccuracies did not creep in, they would be thought a good deal more of."

The *Rahbár-i-Hind* of April 29th writes:—"It is joyful news that Mr. Leppel Griffin went to Patyala after the Mahárájá's death and found everything all right. We cannot describe our joy. If any one should take the trouble to inquire he would find that our worthy native officials are more capable of suggesting rules for the benefit of a country and especially for India than Englishmen."

The *Naiyar-i-Akhbár* of 4th May apologises for a previous libel on the character of the Patyala Prime Minister.

The *Lytton Gazette* of 7th May, in common with several other papers, condemns Holkar for his alleged intention of charging interest on advanced pay. Mahárajá Holkar keeps thinking day and night how he can increase his revenue while his coffers are being filled. For this reason this has been decided upon, to give each Ilaqadar a year's pay in advance, and charge him interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum. All officers and sepoys are displeased at this, and they refuse to pay such interest. Bravo! holy is God! Thousands of praises ought to be lavished upon the Rájáh for this enlightenment and wisdom when he wishes thus to cut the throats of his sepoys, who earn Rs. 4 a month by working day and night, while he squanders thousands of rupees upon

drink and luxury! This state has been unblest from the very beginning, and we have seen nothing remarkable or tending to the comfort of the people that the ruler of the country has done. We hear only of such acts as we have stated. May God grant that such meanness be dispelled from the minds of the officers of this state!"

The *Dabdaba-i-Sikandari* of 1st May writes:—"Baroda." "The guns in the magazine are being destroyed here, and we hear that all the state cavalry and infantry are to be disbanded, and only a few men retained. Police are to be entertained, and the beginning has begun."

The *Asraf-ul-Akhbár* of 1st May says:—"Some say Government after taking a thing cannot think of returning it, but can soon take it back after giving it. What objection has it to returning the Berars? Poor Salár Jang has been obliged to go to England with immense cost to himself! How soon Government has taken back its thirteen villages! True, the powerful will thrash you but will not have you cry."

The *Oudh Akhbár* of 3rd May says:—

"We have experienced the fact that when a ruler dies, and an English officer is appointed to the management of his state, the people become confused at once and lose all sense of rest. We do not say that when an English officer enters upon the administration of a native state he necessarily becomes heartless and oppressive, but they go there unacquainted with the ways, manners, and sympathies of the people, and very often the people suffer much from their acts, and their hearts are broken. In truth, English officers commit such acts as are deserving of attention, and we therefore impress upon Government the advisibility of allowing Khalifa Sayad Muhammad Husan Khán to administer the affairs of the Patyala State."

Several papers advocate the appointment of the Khalifa.

The *Sada Darsha* of 24th April, commenting upon the orders of Government regarding the resumption of 13 villages to the state, says :—"We do not know if this news is correct: because it is against common sense to suppose that our wise Government would issue such peremptory orders in such an important matter."

The *Panjabi Akhbár* of 29th April says :—"These English correspondents are so indifferent that they entirely obliterate the happiness of natives from their minds in their love for their own countrymen. They do not know what pleases the subjects in native states, and whether they ought to think of their happiness above all other things or not. We have said before, and again repeat, that the people of native states are only happy when a native is appointed manager of their state. What can they do, however, if Government makes other arrangements regardless of their happiness? As it is our duty to do so, we advise Government to make over the management of the Patyala State to Khalifa Sayad Muhammed Khán, Sahib Bahádur, the Prime Minister."

The *Patyala Akhbár* of 1st May says :—"Some Government officials blemish their just and great Government for the merest trifles. The crowning point is, when Sir Salár Jang found no one in India would listen to him, he was bent upon going to England and presenting his petition to Parliament; but just then the Supreme Government advanced the argument that it would not be advisable for him to leave the state as a disturbance would ensue in Haidrabad, and he would return despondent from England. The object was that Sir Salár Jang should not go to England and advance his reasons and arguments for the Berárs, &c., in the hope that time would slip by. We wonder much at this idea of the Supreme Government that it should have thought so, and not a black man, according to their notion of us."

PRINCE OF WALES' VISIT.

The *Benares Akhbár* of 13th April writes :—"We wonder much that the Prince of Wales, who has seen such things in Europe, France, Prussia, and England, and who lives in such countries where defects in European soldiers are always pointed out, should have praised our native soldiers to such an extent. Every one knows that sepoys are not taught drill as well as British soldiers in this country are taught, and that they are considered worthless before soldiers in war : we therefore object *in toto* to such praise. Had the Prince said he liked the appearance of sepoys well, but that they were nothing before European soldiers, and that they ought therefore to be taught better, we would have hoped that the prosperity of the country had begun to dawn.

"A ruler ought to be pleased with his people and praise them, but he ought to examine them and suggest means for their improvement. There is no doubt that our Prince had nothing to do with the affairs of the state, but since every one has a right to give his opinion, he ought to have said that native sepoys ought to have been made to compete with soldiers."

LORD NORTHBROOK.

The *Anjuman-t-Hind* of 29th April writes :—"We believe that natives think a great deal of Lord Northbrook because of his justice. Before he entered India the country was anxious, and all complained against the income tax which was levied in a very objectionable manner. When he said, however, that he would be obliged to levy some 80 or 90 millions of sterling public works, the country's anxiety increased, and the year in which the income-tax was doubled consummated their anxiety. Every one thought Government was oppressing us, and we could no longer bear it. But Lord Northbrook abolished this tax, and every one now grieves that he is going from us."

ADMINISTRATIVE.

GENERAL.

The *Rasjdh Akhbár* of 6th May writes:—"Sir John Strachey, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, has severely censured the Assistant Magistrate of Aligarh for a certain proceeding, of which he is guilty, and in which he himself was concerned, and His Honor has recorded that the Assistant Magistrate's action in the aforesaid case is such as to disgrace English courts. The decision, which is the cause of this displeasure, is given below."

A translation from the *Pioneer* follows.

The *Rifah-i-Am* of 24th April says:—"In certain cases our Government, in its receipts and expenditure, acts as one throwing away gold-mohars and hoarding up charcoal. The Accountant-General keeps a strict account of all paper and pens used on account of the state: this is hoarding up charcoal. Now listen to the giving away of gold-mohars. First on the list are the expenses of the Department of Public Works and the Commissariat. Again, it has often happened that people have come into possession of large estates, because they were supposed to be sons or grandsons of certain rich men. It is towards such persons that we wish to draw the attention of Government, and inquire if their rights were ascertained or not."

The *Nasir-ul-Akhbár* of 1st May says regarding the question whether natives hold high positions or not. "This matter needs much discussing yet. Although natives have not been trained for such appointments, and no governor has yet considered them fit for them, yet the English have not wished to let them share in the administration of the country. Only he can find employment who, with a pen over his ear, secures an introduction to a sahíb at his bungalow through his sirdár-bearer, and prays that Jesus Christ might raise him to the peerage. There is no satisfactory

law for appointing people. Men of ability are not permitted to enter the precincts of the kutcherry: in fact, they themselves will not approach a European because of the extraordinary rules which he has fixed for them to salaam him. From the beginning only those of low estate have been provided for. Notwithstanding all this, many natives are well-fitted for responsible positions, and work well though they are badly paid. Though natives know a good deal about their country, they must learn the language and ways of Englishmen by degrees, although these are not very necessary in India."

The *Umdát-ul-Akhbár* says:—"Lord Derby is endeavouring to prevent slave-trade in foreign countries, while in this country the whole people is in a worse state than slavery through the oppression of police fraud and lying. During this age thugs and dacoits have diminished in number, but underhanded dacoity has multiplied, and the sword has been displeased by the pen. Formerly plundering and burglary, &c., were in fashion, and the weapons used were the sword and the hatchet; but now fraud, deceit, lying, and cheating are rife, and the instruments of oppression are the pen and the policeman's baton which lights upon every head."

The *Akhbár Khair Khwáh Alam* of 5th May and one or two other papers notice without comment the increase of pay to be given to native soldiers.

RAILWAY AND POST-OFFICE.

The *Vakil-i-Hindustán* of May 6th writes:—"Panjab State Railway."—"The carriages of this railway are very small and narrow, and there is no shelter from the sun at any one station. Notwithstanding this, the arrangements are very bad, inasmuch as there are no intermediate carriages, so that middle-class familied people are greatly inconvenienced. There is great delay in the distribution of tickets, and the ticket-collector will not receive pice: he takes silver and gives change in copper. Should an unfortunate not have a

regret what is he to do? The station-master ought to be entitled against annoying the public. No matter howsoever respectable a passenger is, and his luggage weighs under 10 seers, it must be thrown out of the carriage. These daring acts are perpetrated by Eurasians, who call themselves gentlemen (sahib-log). There is no convenience for water this hot weather at these stations, and the poor especially suffer. The bhisti at Ghakhar deserves to be punished. We hope that the Consulting Engineer to Government will spare a few of his precious moments to advise on these matters."

The *Málwá Akhbár* of 19th April complains of the sufferings of passengers on the Indore State Railway from the defective arrangements for supplying drinking water at the several stations.

A correspondent of the *Akhbár Khair Khwáh-i-Alam* of May 5th accuses the "land duties collector, who is appointed to the railway station, Jaipur, of systematic embezzlement of duties on goods."

The *Taj-ul-Akhbár* of 4th May says:—"The Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company have made most satisfactory arrangements for the happiness and comfort of the public. The notice refers to the rule that railway passengers may break their journey after travelling 100 miles and rest for a day."

THE PRESS.

The *Vakil-i-Hindustán* of 29th April writes:—"The reporting to Government on the Vernacular Press is in a sad state of suspense, because important matters do not reach the officers of the state. It is true that our enlightened Government has appointed a reporter, and in his opinion he translates a few matters and sends them up for perusal, and sometimes Government notices them. But the good that ought to accrue to Government does not accrue. Vernacular papers have the courage to attack the Governor-General of

India and the Secretary of State for their acts, but they have not the pluck to expose the laziness of the Government Reporter. We do not see that our Government Reporter does his work properly. We learn from reliable sources that the present reporter is an Englishman, and that he is a learned person, and this is why a sufficient number of selections is not made as used to be done in the time of the native reporter. Although certain of the native Government Reporter's acts were utterly unavailing, yet, in justice to him, we must say that his selections were generally very good and sensible. He was a native and had sympathy with his countrymen, but the present reporter neither sympathizes with us nor knows the customs of our country: it is therefore building castles in the air to expect good and sensible selections from him. We learn from a reliable source that the present reporter has a great deal of work in arrears, but we have no concern with this matter. We think the reporter ought to be a native, read well in English, Urdu, Hindi, Persian, Arabic, Mahratti, and other Indian languages, and understanding their idioms thoroughly."

The *Shola-i-Túr* of 2nd May writes :—"In this age the name of independence is disgraced to such an extent that English papers write such articles about native papers (that are free in name only) as to attract the attention of Government towards them. Native papers never write such articles against Government or its officers as to result in anything detrimental to either, or distress the officers in power at the time, still we cannot understand how English papers try to prove that native papers are overbearing."

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

A correspondent of the *Vakíl-i-Hind* of May 6th complains of the treatment to which he was subjected by the Native Doctor of the Amritsar Charitable Dispensary. After being pushed aside by the doctor's punkha-cooly, the doctor told him to be off without medicine.

The *Peis Dilrin* of May 1st says :—"The *Lucknow Times* lies so frightfully: it says that the Queen intends placing her third son, Arthur, upon either the throne of Delhi or of Agra, and ruling Hindustán herself."

The *Akhbar Khair Khwáh Alam* of 28th April writes :—"We copy from the *Behar Herald* a case of compulsory salaaming. A correspondent says I was on my way in a palanquin to the office of the Executive Engineer, Gandak Survey Division yesterday, and had with me on horseback a candidate for employment. On the way I met Mr. Nugent, Assistant Magistrate of Sitamarhi, on foot. I saluted the gentleman, but he did not return it; holding the reins of the candidate's horse however, he said, 'do you not know that I am the Assistant Magistrate of Sitamarhi?' The candidate replied 'I did not.' Mr. Nugent then said—'The next time I see you both, and you do not alight from your palanquin and horse, I will punish you severely."

The *Koh-i-Nur* of 29th April says :—"An occasional correspondent from Hoshiárpur informs us that the women of the city go to the canal and bathe naked; and when about the third watch they visit the latrines certain vagabonds who stroll about there on pretence of taking exercise put in an appearance."

The *Rahber-i-Hind* of 29th April writes :—"The Hoshiárpur Court."—"We have heard certain complaints about this Court, one of which is worth considering. A correspondent tells us that formerly the Deputy Commissioner used to receive all petitions, but latterly this work has been transferred to the Small Cause Court Judge or the Judicial Assistant. The Judge is a very worthy man; but he does not stand in such relation to the subordinate Court as to be able to make over the cases that very day or that very instant: nor has he the time to pass orders on the plaints and return them to complainnats. Our correspondent wishes their petitions to be attended to at

once for the convenience of petitioners. We agree with him, and beg accordingly of the district officer to do so."

The *Urdu Akhbár* of 29th April :—"Akola."—"Last week five prisoners died in this jail. Doctors do not attend properly to sick prisoners we think, and this is very wrong."

The *Jalwá Túr* of 1st May writes :—"The Máhárájá of Benares has petitioned Government to the effect that he be allowed to pay a tribute to Government and make himself independent. No order has yet been passed upon this application."

The *Akhmál-ul-Akhbár* of 30th April writes :—When the soldier of the 22nd regiment was asked why he shot three natives at Sháhjáhánpur, he said,—"When I passed through Cawnpore, and saw the memorial over the well into which many of our countrymen and women were thrown, it engendered a feeling of hatred in me towards natives, and I made a fixed determination in my mind to take revenge when I could get the chance."

The *Gazette of Gwalior* of 30th April advocates the establishment of a Lock Hospital in Gwalior.

The press continues to circulate as items of news—

The shooting case at Sháhjahánpur.

Troops leaving Bombay for Egypt.

Reduction of the Baroda troops, and destruction of the state guns.

The Sitamarhí salaaming case is reported by many papers, but without comment.

All the papers quote the *Pioneer's* first article on the Aligarh "Court's lég" case.

LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

Name.	Date.	
	1876.	
Vakil-i-Hindustán,	May,	6th
Sadiq-ul-Akhbár,	,,	1st
Khair Khwáh-i-Panjáb,	,,	1st
Paiyám Akhbár,	,,	1st
Panjábi Akhbár,	,,	6th
Akhbár-i-Alam,	,,	4th
Anjuman-i-Panjáb,	,,	5th
Urdu Akhbár Akola,	,,	6th
Dabdabá Sikandari,	,,	8th
Akhbár Khair Khwáh Hind,	,,	8th
Lytton Gazette,	,,	7th
Anand Lahori,	April,	26th
Vrit Dhára,	May,	1st
Aligarh Institute Gazette,	April,	28th
Oudh Akhbár,	,,	30th
Khair Khwáh-i-'Alam,	,,	28th
Vakil-i-Hindustán,	,,	29th
Kok-i-Núr,	,,	29th
Rahbar-i-Hind,	,,	29th
Anjuman-i-Panjáb,	,,	26th
Adib-i-'Alam,	,,	28th
Nayar-a-'Azam,	,,	26th
Social Science Congress Gazette,	,,	28th
Mayo Memorial Gazette,	,,	25th
Muir Gazette,	,,	28th
Anjuman-i-Hind,	,,	29th
Safir-i-Hind,	,,	30th
Rafah-i-Am,	,,	24th
Nasir-ul-Akhbár,	May,	1st
Dabdabá-i-Sikandari	,,	1st
Ashraf-ul-Akhbár,	,,	1st
Nayar-i-Akhbár,	April,	27th
Lesh-a-Mahfuz,	,,	28th
Urdu Akhbár (Akola),	,,	29th
Albert Gazette,	,,	28th
Kár Námah,	May,	1st
Oudh Akhbár,	,,	3rd
Sholáh-i-Túr,	,,	2nd
Sayad-ul-Akhbár,	,,	1st
Mirror Gazette,	April,	24th
Social Reformer,	Rabi Sani,	1st
Anwar-ul-Akhbár,	May,	1st
Sada Darsha,	April,	24th
Milad Akhbár,	,,	19th
Benares Akhbár,	,,	13th
Kavi Vachan Sudha,	,,	24th
Benares Akhbár,	,,	20th
Anand Lahori,	,,	21st
Vrit Dhára,	,,	24th
Urdu Akhbár,	,,	22nd

LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

Name.	Date.	
	1876.	
Sada Darsha,	May,	1st
Urdu Akhbár,	April,	29th
Kasi Patrika,	,,	30th
Kavi Vachan Sudha,	May,	1st
Panjáb-i-Akhbár,	April,	29th
Jalwá Túr,	May,	1st
Rohilkhand Akhbár,	April,	29th
Rahbar-i-Hindh,	May,	2nd
Matlá-Núr,	,,	2nd
Ahmdi-ut-Akhbár,	April,	30th
Tohfah-i-Kashmír,	,,	29th
Gazette of Gwalior,	,,	30th
Mohib-i-Hindh,	,,	30th
Akhbár Anjuman, Shdhjahánpur,	May,	1st
Akhbár-i-Am,	,,	3rd
Khair Khwáh Alam,	,,	5th
Najm-ul-Akhbár,	,,	1st
Agra Akhbár,	April,	30th
Núr Afshán,	May,	4th
Nizam-ul-Akhbár,	,,	1st
Núr-ul-Anwar,	,,	6th
Lawrence Gazette,	,,	2nd
Dabdabá Sikandari,	April,	17th
Tajul Akhbár,	May,	4th
Nayar-i-'Azam,	,,	3rd
Nayar-i-Akhbar,	,,	4th
Mayo Memorial Gazette,	,,	5th

ALLAHABAD:
The 8th May, 1876.

P. ROBINSON,
Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of Upper India.

LIST OF PATENTS EXAMINED.